

"Understand the specifics of our peninsula's ecosystem, and design programmes to best support, protect and enhance it." - MWP Vision

Kia Ora Mahurangi West and Hungry Creek residents and landowners. This is MWP's 54th update on projects to eradicate pests and improve our natural environment through greater biodiversity.



Kikuyu Lacks Biodiversity!

Part of the paper road on iwi-owned land, running along the southern boundary of 2 Barr Road, including a steep bank and a level area at the top of Opahi Bay Road (shown in this photo) is under-going a transformation with significant input from local volunteers, to remove unsightly weeds and pest trees and replant with 230 native flaxes and shrubs, supplied by Rodney Local Board. This improvement will benefit local biodiversity.

If you can volunteer for clearing weeds and planting on **Saturday, 9 August, from 9am**, please email [Nada Cottrell](mailto:Nada.Cottrell@mahurangiwestpest.co.nz). Thanks to those who've already put their names forward. A BBQ lunch will be provided.

You are welcome to bring your electric (with safety mask) or manual scrub cutting tools, secateurs, long-loppers etc. Please wear closed-toe boots. Spades for the day will be supplied by Restore Rodney East, as well as a loan of its gazebo.

Five Years Of Council Support

Over the past five years, Auckland Council's environmental section has provided the wages for our community coordinator - \$28,395 this funding year. It has also given additional funding for plants, weed eradication tools, compost bags, and Regional Park Buffer Zone work. It also recognises the work of MWP in improving biodiversity by trapping animal pests, removing pest plants, and maintaining and planting native

plants for land protection and as food sources for indigenous birds and other fauna. Special thanks to Council staff, Bryony Smart, Rebecca Kemp and Chrissy Henley for their continued support.

*Nada Cottrell,
MWP Community
Coordinator*

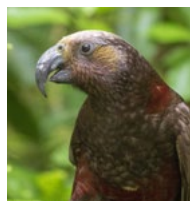


Volunteering For The Birds

For Cornell University's Science Lab, monitoring birds is an essential part of protecting them. They track the health of 10,000 bird species worldwide. MWP's lead bird counter, Fran Ashton, collates our results four times a year and forwards it to Cornell's Lab, who say people make the difference in conservation efforts.

A great way to help through volunteering, but also by prioritising your bird counting sessions. With only four seasonal, 15-minute sessions a year, instead of missing a session for any reason, please let Fran know and someone else may be able to cover for you. "Otherwise we have gaps in our data, making comparisons hard," she says. Our data is also added to Trap.NZ, which helps build a picture of how birds are recovering from the extensive trapping we do.

Sarah Mason, of Jamieson Bay, recently recorded a kaka, one of nine species of parrots endemic to New Zealand, in her garden. [Photo: www.storyboardthat.com]

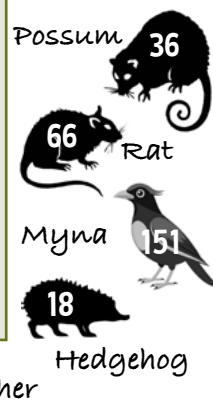


Trap.NZ Data For July

Pest Control Tools in the Field: 2,070

Includes 523 Bait Stations
Monitoring Stations: 1

	Total	365 Days	30 Day
Possum:	3,505	1,000	36
Rat:	3,115	954	66
Myna:	1,578	1,578	151
Hedgehog:	422	120	18
Mustelid:	186	49	4
Other:	1,904	805	24
Total:	10,226	4,506	299



DONATIONS TO MWP: BANK A/C 06-0483-0894183-00

Thank you for your continued support - we're putting your donations to good use. Please tag your donations as 'pest tools', 'weed control', 'native plants', or 'wasp control'. If setting up a regular payment to go towards a fulltime trapper, as your way of helping us, use the tag 'trapper'.

CONTACTS

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Stephanie Herron: Secretary stephanie.herron@mac.com
Fran Ashton: eBirds ashton.sager@gmail.com 021 260 2793
Planting Coordinator (pending)
Website: <https://mahurangiwestpest.wordpress.com>
Facebook: [Mahurangi West Pest's Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/mahurangiwestpest)

TRAPLINE AREA COORDINATORS

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